

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEL AV 02199 291456Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04  
NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02  
L-03 FMC-02 DOTE-00 /056 W  
-----300149Z 026036 /72-62

R 291415Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5465

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 2199

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, ECON, IS  
SUBJECT: DOCK WORKERS' STRIKE

REF: TEL AVIV 2157

1. WORK WAS RESUMED ON MARCH 29 AT ALL ISRAEL PORTS FOLLOWING THE DECISION BY THE SPECIAL CABINET COMMITTEE THAT NORMAL WORK SHOULD BE RESUMED IMMEDIATELY AND THAT THE PORTS AUTHORITY SHOULD SIMULTANEOUSLY OPEN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE DOCK WORKERS ON THE BASIS OF HISTADRUT PROPOSALS FOR A FIVE PER CENT WAGE INCREASE (SEE REFTEL). AMONG THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, MINISTERS YAACOB I AND HAUSNER WANTED THE WAGE INCREASE TO THE DOCKERS TO BE LINKED TO THE WAGE INCREASE PROPOSED FOR THE WHOLE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR BUT THIS CONDITION WAS NOT ACCEPTED.

2. INITIAL REACTION TO THE DECISION IS MIXED. WHILE THE GOVERNMENT WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN LEFT WITH NO OPTION EXCEPT TO ACCEPT HISTADRUT PROPOSALS AS A BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE WORKERS, SUCH AN ACCEPTANCE WILL ALMOST INEVITABLY RESULT IN SIMILAR INCREASES THROUGHOUT THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR. AVRAHAM SHAVIT, PRESIDENT OF THE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, BITTERLY CRITICIZED THE AGREEMENT AND EMPHASIZED  
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THAT HIS ASSOCIATION WOULD NOT BE BOUND BY THE DECISION AS LONG AS PREVIOUSLY NEGOTIATED WAGE CONTRACTS ARE IN FORCE.

3. ECONOMIC CIRCLES EXPRESS THE VIEW THAT THE EXPECTED OVERALL WAGE INCREASE FOR ALL INDUSTRIAL WORKERS WILL RESULT IN A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AND MAY ALSO CREATE POCKETS OF UNEMPLOYMENT AS

SOME EMPLOYERS MAY BE UNABLE TO MEET THE HIGHTER WAGE  
COSTS.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** UNION GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, LONGSHOREMEN, LABOR STRIKES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 29-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 TEL AVIV 2157  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3199144  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DOCK WORKERS' STRIKE  
**TAGS:** ELAB, ECON, IS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009